

Part III

Neighborhoods, Housing and Community Renewal

Chapter 7 Neighborhoods, Historic Preservation, and Housing

Chapter 8 Community Renewal

SUMMARY THEMES

- **DATA:** Understand the reality on the ground
 - > Comprehensive property information system and market evaluation analysis
 - > Brownfields inventory
- **NO MORE SILOS:** Talk to one another
 - > Housing Policy Advisory Council and subcommittees
- **BUILD ON ASSETS:** Retain and enhance
 - > Historic preservation priority ranking system
 - > Historic preservation coupled with neighborhood enhancement and revitalization
 - > Artist studio and live/work space
- **NO ONE-SIZE-FITS ALL:** Use the right tool to get the job done
 - > Director in charge of code enforcement and blight removal, accountable to the Mayor
 - > Birmingham Redevelopment Authority and Land Bank
- **MAKE CHOICES FOR CRITICAL MASS:** Be strategic
 - > Criteria for redevelopment planning and investment for designated Strategic Opportunity Areas
 - > Start where there is high probability of success
 - > Create critical mass
 - > Repeat and expand
- **BUILD CAPACITY:** Get organized for funding and impact
 - > Birmingham Neighborhoods Future conference soon after adoption of the comprehensive plan
 - > Capacity College for neighborhood groups and small nonprofits
- **BE INNOVATIVE:** Turn vacancy into opportunity
 - > Use vacant land to green neighborhoods
 - > Establish community land trusts for affordable housing and for open space
 - > Create an Urban Agriculture Pilot District for a year-round, for-profit food production industry on vacant land and in vacant buildings